in which  $R^9$ ,  $R^{10}$ ,  $R^{11}$  and  $R^{12}$  are identical to or different from one another and are each a hydrophilic monovalent radical having the same definition as that given for  $R^9$  and  $R^{10}$  in claim 1, ethanoyl, methoxyethyl and sorbitoyl radicals being more especially preferred.

- 5. (Amended) Process according to claim 1, characterized in that several metal species belonging to the lanthanide and/or actinide family are separated, said separation being effected by successive complexations of the ions of each of these species to be separated, the appropriate selective ligand being chosen for each species (step 1) and a nanofiltration (step 2) and a decomplexation/collection (step 3) being carried out after each complexation.
- 6. (Amended) Process according to claim 1, characterized in that the nanofiltration membrane used is made of at least one material selected from the group of polymers consisting of:

polyaramides, sulfonated polysulfones,

polybenzimidazolones, grafted or non-grafted polyvinyldidene fluorides, polyamides, cellulose esters, cellulose ethers, perfluorinated ionomers, associations of these polymers, and copolymers obtained from monomers of at least two of these polymers.

7. (Amended) Process according to claim 1, characterized in that the selected membrane has a cut-off threshold, expressed in g/mol, which is defined as follows:

100 - 5000

preferably

200 - 2000

and even more preferably

500 - 1500

8. (Amended) Process according to claim 1, characterized in that the pH of the medium, preferably the aqueous solution, constituting the complexation/ separation medium is fixed at between 1 and 6.

Please cancel claim 11 without prejudice or disclaimer of the subject matter thereof.